

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	: Junya Maruyama et al.	Art Unit	: 2822
Serial No.	: 10/821,927	Examiner	: Jamie C. Niesz
Filed	: April 12, 2004	Conf. No.	: 2114
Title	: DISPLAY DEVICE AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF		

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF NOVEMBER 26, 2011

Claims 122-124, 126-140, and 171-183 are pending with claims 122, 127, 137, and 174 being independent. The claims have not been amended.

Claims 122-124, 126, 137-140, 171 and 173 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taniguchi (U.S. Patent No. 5,239,228) in view of Ehara (U.S. Patent No. 6,601,962), and claims 127-136, 172 and 174-183 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taniguchi in view of Ebisawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,284,342) and Ehara.

Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections because neither Taniguchi, Ehara, Ebisawa, nor any combination of the three describes or suggests “minute unevennesses” on a bottom surface of a second substrate configured in the manner recited in each of the independent claims.

Recognizing that Taniguchi and Ebisawa do not describe the recited minute unevennesses, the rejection relies on Ehara as doing so. However, Ehara is directed to features that are much different from those recited by Taniguchi and/or recited in the claims. In particular, Ehara describes, with reference to FIG. 1, a light guide plate 1 having a light diffusing portion 11 at a light input end face on a side surface of the light guide plate, a reflector 4 on a lower face perpendicular to the side surface, and a light emitting surface 12 on an upper face perpendicular to the side surface. Ehara notes that the light diffusing portion 11 includes notches of triangular cone shape 11a. The notches 11a are positioned opposite a light emitting surface 26 of a LED light source 2 in the light input end face of the light guide plate 1. Ehara notes that the notches 11a suppress abnormal light emission in the vicinity of the light diffusing portion 11 and